



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Proposed Bill No. 5810

LCO No. 1318

Referred to Committee on Appropriations

Introduced by:

REP. CAFERO, 142nd Dist.
REP. CANDELORA, 86th Dist.
REP. KLARIDES, 114th Dist.
SEN. MCKINNEY, 28th Dist.
SEN. FASANO, 34th Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
CONSTITUTIONAL SPENDING CAP.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 That section 2-33a of the general statutes be amended, by a vote of
2 three-fifths of the members of each house of the General Assembly, to
3 prohibit the General Assembly from authorizing an increase in general
4 budget expenditures for any fiscal year above the amount of general
5 budget expenditures authorized for the previous fiscal year by a
6 percentage that exceeds the greater of the percentage increase in
7 personal income or the percentage increase in inflation, unless the
8 Governor declares an emergency or the existence of extraordinary
9 circumstances and at least three-fifths of the members of each house of
10 the General Assembly vote to exceed such limit for the purposes of
11 such emergency or extraordinary circumstances; and to define
12 "increase in personal income" to mean the average of the annual
13 increase in personal income in the state for each of the preceding five
14 years, according to United States Bureau of Economic Analysis data,

15 "increase in inflation" to mean the increase in the consumer price index
16 for urban consumers during the preceding twenty-four-month period
17 ending December thirty-first of the calendar year preceding the fiscal
18 year to which the budget relates, according to United States Bureau of
19 Labor Statistics data and "general budget expenditures" to mean
20 expenditures from appropriated funds authorized by public or special
21 act of the General Assembly, provided general budget expenditures
22 shall not include expenditures for payment of the principal of and
23 interest on bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness or
24 expenditures pursuant to section 4-30a of the general statutes.

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the constitutional limitation on the amount of expenditures that may be authorized by the General Assembly by enacting legislation defining the terms "increase in personal income", "increase in inflation" and "general budget expenditures" by a vote of three-fifths of the members of each house of the General Assembly, as required by Article XXVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution of the state of Connecticut.